



JFW

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 2926US(203-3805PCTUS)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Gregg et al.	Examiner:	Not Assigned
Serial No.:	10/573,210	Group: Art Unit	Not Assigned
Filed:	March 24, 2006	Dated:	May 5, 2006
For:	REDUNDANT TEMPERATURE MONITORING IN ELECTROSURGICAL SYSTEMS FOR SAFETY MITIGATION		

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the U.S. patent documents are not provided in accordance with the waiver of that requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98.

Applicant would also like to bring commonly-owned U.S. Application No. 10/406,690 filed on April 5, 2003; U.S. Application No. 11/242,458 filed October 3, 2005; U.S. Application No. 10/609,946 filed June 30, 2003; U.S. Application No. 11/367,514 filed March 3, 2006; U.S. Application No. 11/242,475 filed October 3, 2005; U.S. Application No. 11/129,985 filed May 16, 2005; U.S. Application No. 11/338,309 filed January 24, 2006; U.S. Application No. 11/299,468 filed December 12, 2005;

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 5, 2006

Dated: May 5, 2006


Edward C. Meagher

U.S. Application No. 11/328,766 filed January 10, 2006; U.S. Application No. 11/367,723 filed March 3, 2006; U.S. Application No. 11/256,374 filed October 21, 2005; U.S. Application No. 11/338,480 filed January 24, 2006; U. S. Application No. 10/434,019 filed May 8, 2003; U.S. Application No. 11/338,479 filed January 24, 2006 to the Examiner's attention. Copies of these applications are enclosed.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

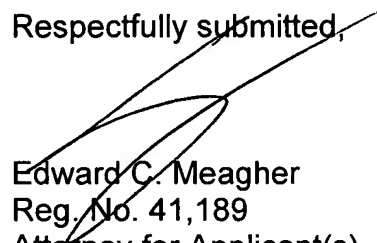
The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application.
- ☒ To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2).

- ☐ Enclosed by check is the petition fee of \$130.00. (37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1))
- ☐ Please charge the \$130.00 petition fee to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.
- ☐ Enclosed by check is the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).
- ☐ Please charge the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.
- ☒ Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 21-0550. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 21-0550 therefor.

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward C. Meagher
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Attorney for Applicant(s)

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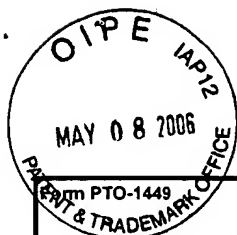
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ECM/gm



without references

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)			Docket Number (Optional) 2926US(203-3805PCTUS)		Application Number 10/573,210	
			Applicant Gregg et al.			
			Filing Date March 24, 2006		Group Art Number	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	RE 33,420	Nov. 6, 1990	Marvin L. Sussman			
	RE 36,871	Sept. 12, 2000	Paul Epstein			
	1,787,709	Jan. 6, 1931	F.C. Wappler			
	1,813,902	Jul. 14, 1931	W.T. Bovie			
	1,841,968	Jan. 19, 1932	N.H. Lowry			
	1,863,118	Jun. 14, 1932	J.G.H. Liebel			
	1,945,867	Feb. 6, 1934	P.C. Rawls			
	2,827,056	Mar. 18, 1958	J. Degelman			
	2,849,611	Aug. 26, 1958	R.P. Adams			
	2,982,881	May 2, 1961	R.W. Reich			
	3,058,470	Oct. 16, 1962	E. Seeliger et al.			
	3,089,496	May. 14, 1963	J. Degelman			
	3,163,165	Dec. 29, 1964	Humio Islikawa			
	3,252,052	May. 17, 1966	F.M. Nash			
	3,391,351	Jul. 2, 1968	D. W. Trent			
	3,402,326	Sept. 17, 1968	R.A. Guasco et al.			
	3,413,480	Nov. 26, 1968	J.R. Biard et al.			
	3,436,563	Apr. 1, 1969	W.M. Regitz			
	3,439,253	Apr. 15, 1969	M.J. Piteo			
	3,439,680	Apr. 22, 1969	E.R. Thomas Jr.			
	3,461,874	Aug. 19, 1969	M. Martinez			
	3,471,770	Oct. 7, 1969	K. E. Haire			
	3,478,744	Nov. 18, 1969	H. Leiter			
	3,486,115	Dec. 23, 1969	D. J. Anderson			
	3,495,584	Feb. 17, 1970	A. W. Schwalm			
	3,513,353	May. 19, 1970	J. L. Lansch			
	3,514,689	May 26, 1970	R. Giannamore			
	3,515,943	Jun. 2, 1970	Warrington			
	3,551,786	Dec. 29, 1970	J.L. Van Gulik			
Examiner				Date Considered		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.						

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	3,562,623	Feb. 9, 1971	Robert P. Farnsworth			
	3,571,644	Mar. 23, 1971	Albert Jakoubovitch			
	3,589,363	Jun. 29, 1971	Anton Banko			
	3,595,221	Jul. 27, 1971	John Harold Blackett			
	3,601,126	Aug. 24, 1971	Jerry R. Estes			
	3,611,053	Oct. 5, 1971	William G. Rowell			
	3,641,422	Feb. 18, 1972	Farnsworth et al.			
	3,662,151	May. 9, 1972	Paul C. Haffey			
	3,675,655	Jul. 11, 1972	Weldon Rex Sittner			
	3,683,923	Aug. 15, 1972	Robert K. Anderson			
	3,693,613	Sept. 26, 1972	Charles Kelman			
	3,697,808	Oct. 10, 1972	Joo Chan Lee			
	3,699,967	Oct. 24, 1972	Robert K. Anderson			
	3,720,896	Mar. 13, 1973	Reiner Bierlein			
	3,743,918	Jul. 3, 1973	Guy Maitre			
	3,766,434	Oct. 16, 1973	Stanley A. Sherman			
	3,768,482	Oct. 30, 1973	Robert F. Shaw			
	3,783,340	Jan. 1, 1974	Richard S. Becker			
	3,784,842	Jan. 8, 1974	Frederic B. Kremer			
	3,801,766	Apr. 2, 1974	Charles F. Morrison, Jr.			
	3,801,800	Apr. 2, 1974	David W. Newton			
	3,812,858	May. 28, 1974	Maurice Jules Oringer			
	3,815,015	Jun. 4, 1974	Swin et al.			
	3,826,263	Jul. 30, 1974	John M. Cage et al.			
	3,828,768	Aug. 13, 1974	David W. Douglas			
	3,848,600	Nov. 19, 1974	C. T. Patrick, Jr., et al.			
	3,870,047	Mar. 11, 1975	Donald I. Gonser			
	3,875,945	Apr. 8, 1975	Joshua Friedman			
	3,885,569	May. 27, 1975	Donald W. Judson			
	3,897,787	Aug. 5, 1975	Yuji Ikuno et al.			
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	3,897,788	Aug. 5, 1975	David W. Newton			
	3,901,216	Aug. 26, 1975	Milton R. Felger			
	3,905,373	Sept. 16, 1975	Donald I. Gonser			
	3,913,583	Oct. 21, 1975	William T. Bross			
	3,923,063	Dec. 2, 1975	Stephen Andrews et al.			
	3,933,157	Jan. 20, 1976	Per Henrik Bjurwill et al.			
	3,946,738	Mar. 30, 1976	David W. Newton et al.			
	3,952,748	Apr. 27, 1976	Kaliher et al.			
	3,963,030	Jun. 15, 1976	David W. Newton			
	3,964,487	Jun. 22, 1976	Donald W. Judson			
	3,971,365	Jul. 27, 1976	Leland B. Smith			
	3,980,085	Sept. 14, 1976	Yuji Ikuno			
	4,005,714	Feb. 1, 1977	Siegfried Hilebrandt			
	4,024,467	May 17, 1977	Andrews et al.			
	4,041,952	Aug. 16, 1977	C. Morrison, Jr. et al.			
	4,051,855	Oct. 4, 1977	Max Schneiderman			
	4,063,557	Dec. 20, 1977	David G. Wuchinich et al.			
	4,074,719	Feb. 21, 1978	Kurt Semm			
	4,092,986	Jun. 6, 1978	Max Schneiderman			
	4,094,320	Jun. 13, 1978	David W. Newton et al.			
	4,102,341	Jul. 25, 1978	Yuzi Ikuno et al.			
	4,114,623	Sept. 19, 1978	Hans Meinke et al.			
	4,121,590	Oct. 24, 1978	Donald I. Gonser			
	4,123,673	Oct. 31, 1978	Donald I. Gonser			
	4,126,137	Nov. 21, 1978	G. Kent Archibald			
	4,145,636	Mar. 20, 1979	S. Doi			
	4,188,927	Feb. 19, 1980	Frank W. Harris			
	4,191,188	Mar. 4, 1980	Kenneth W. Belt et al.			
	4,196,734	Apr. 8, 1980	Frank W. Harris			
	4,200,104	Apr. 29, 1980	Frank W. Harris			
	4,200,105	Apr. 29, 1980	Donald I. Gosner			
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	4,209,018	Jun. 24, 1980	Hans Meinke et al.			
	4,231,372	Nov. 4, 1980	David W. Newton			
	4,232,676	Nov. 11, 1980	Andrew Herczog			
	4,237,887	Dec. 9, 1980	Donald I. Gosner			
	4,237,891	Dec. 9, 1980	Ronald A. DuBose et al.			
	4,281,373	Jul. 28, 1981	Pierre Mabile			
	4,287,557	Sep. 1, 1981	Robert F. Brehse			
	4,303,073	Dec. 1, 1981	G. Kent Archibald			
	4,311,154	Jan. 19, 1982	Sterzer et al.			
	4,314,559	Feb. 9, 1982	Richard E. Allen			
	4,321,926	Mar. 30, 1982	Ralph R. Roge			
	4,334,539	Jun. 15, 1982	Warren L. Childs et al.			
	4,343,308	Aug. 10, 1982	Robert D. Gross			
	4,372,315	Feb. 8, 1983	Julius Shapiro et al.			
	4,376,263	Mar. 8, 1983	Pittroff et al.			
	4,378,801	Apr. 5, 1983	Roger L Oosten			
	4,384,582	May. 24, 1983	John H. Watt			
	4,397,314	Aug. 9, 1983	Vaguine			
	4,407,272	Oct. 4, 1983	Tatuya Yamaguchi			
	4,411,266	Oct. 25, 1983	Eric R. Cosman			
	4,416,276	Nov. 22, 1983	David W. Newton et al.			
	4,416,277	Nov. 22, 1983	David W. Newton et al.			
	4,437,464	Mar. 20, 1984	James J. Crow			
	4,452,546	Jun. 5, 1984	S. Hildebrandt et al.			
	4,463,759	Aug. 7, 1984	Jon C. Garito et al.			
	4,470,414	Sept. 11, 1984	Kyoshiro Imagawa et al.			
	4,472,661	Sep. 18, 1984	Clifford T. Culver			
	4,474,179	Oct. 2, 1984	Rainer Koch			
	4,492,231	Jan. 8, 1985	David C. Auth			
	4,492,832	Jan. 8, 1985	Glenn N. Taylor			
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	4,494,541	Jan. 22, 1985	G. Kent Archibald			
	4,514,619	Apr. 30, 1985	Michael M. Kugelman			
	4,520,818	Jun. 4, 1985	Stanley Mickiewicz			
	4,559,943	Dec. 24, 1985	William J. Bowers			
	4,565,200	Jan. 21, 1986	Eric R. Cosman			
	4,566,454	Jan. 28, 1986	Thomas L. Mehl et al.			
	4,569,345	Feb. 11, 1986	Michael R. Manes			
	4,576,177	Mar. 18, 1986	Webster Jr.			
	4,582,057	Apr. 15, 1986	Dacid C. Auth et al.			
	4,590,934	May. 27, 1986	Jerry L. Malis et al.			
	4,608,977	Sep. 2, 1986	Brown			
	4,630,218	Dec. 16, 1986	James R. Hurley			
	4,632,109	Dec. 30, 1986	William G. Patterson			
	4,644,955	Feb. 24, 1987	P. Mioduski			
	4,646,222	Feb. 24, 1987	Chihiro Okado et al.			
	4,651,264	Mar. 17, 1987	Shiao-Chung Hu			
	4,651,280	Mar. 17, 1987	Chang et al.			
	4,657,015	Apr. 14, 1987	Warner Irnich			
	4,658,815	Apr. 21, 1987	Gunter Farin et al.			
	4,658,819	Apr. 21, 1987	Frank W. Harris et al.			
	4,658,820	Apr. 21, 1987	Michael S. Klicek			
	4,662,383	May 5, 1987	Sogawa et al.			
	4,712,559	Dec. 15, 1987	Paul F. Turner			
	4,727,874	Mar. 1, 1988	William J. Bowers et al.			
	4,735,204	Apr. 5, 1988	Marvin L. Sussman et al.			
	4,739,759	Apr. 26, 1988	F. W. Rexroth et al.			
	4,741,334	May. 3, 1988	Werner Irnich			
	4,754,757	Jul. 5, 1988	Peter Feucht			
	4,805,621	Feb. 21, 1989	Heinze et al.			
	4,818,954	Apr. 4, 1989	Flachenecker et al.			
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	4,827,911	May. 9, 1989	Alan Broadwin et al.			
	4,827,927	May. 9, 1989	David W. Newton			
	4,832,024	May 23, 1989	Boussignac et al.			
	4,848,335	July 18, 1989	Manes			
	4,848,355	Jul. 18, 1989	Yasuhiro Nakamura et al.			
	4,860,745	Aug. 29, 1989	Gunter Farin et al.			
	4,862,889	Sept. 5, 1989	Peter Feucht			
	4,880,719	Nov. 14, 1989	Murofushi et al.			
	4,890,610	Jan. 2, 1990	L. T. Kirwan et al.			
	4,903,696	Feb. 27, 1990	Peter Stasz et al.			
	4,907,589	Mar. 13, 1990	Eric R. Cosman			
	4,922,210	May. 1, 1990	G. Flachenecker et al.			
	4,931,047	Jun. 5, 1990	Alan Broadwin et al.			
	4,931,717	Jun. 5, 1990	Randall C. Gray et al.			
	4,938,761	Jul. 3, 1990	Frieder H. Ensslin			
	4,942,313	Jul. 17, 1990	Helmut Kinzel			
	4,961,047	Oct. 2, 1990	Timothy J. Carder			
	4,961,435	Oct 9, 1990	Kitagawa et al.			
	4,966,597	Oct. 30, 1990	Cosman			
	4,969,885	Nov. 13, 1990	Gunter Farin			
	4,993,430	Feb. 19, 1991	Shimoyama et al.			
	4,995,877	Feb. 26, 1991	Felix Ams et al.			
	5,015,227	May. 14, 1991	Alan Broadwin et al.			
	5,019,176	May. 28, 1991	Brandhorst, Jr.			
	5,029,588	Jul. 9, 1991	Yock et al.			
	5,087,257	Feb. 11, 1992	Farin			
	5,103,804	Apr. 14, 1992	Abele et al.			
	5,108,389	Apr. 28, 1992	Ioan Cosmescu			
	5,108,391	Apr. 28, 1992	Flachenecker			
	5,122,137	Jun. 16, 1992	Charles D. Lennox			
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	5,133,711	Jul. 28, 1992	Alfred Hagen			
	5,151,102	Sept. 29, 1992	H. Kamiyama et al.			
	5,152,762	Oct. 6, 1992	Jay J. McElhenney			
	5,157,603	Oct. 20, 1992	Gregg D. Scheller et al.			
	5,160,334	Nov. 3, 1992	R. Gail Billings et al.			
	5,162,217	Nov. 10, 1992	Hartman			
	5,167,658	Dec. 1, 1992	Frieder H. Ensslin			
	5,190,517	Mar. 2, 1993	David A. Zieve et al.			
	5,196,008	Marr. 23, 1993	Kuenecke			
	5,196,009	Mar. 23, 1993	Lawerence T. Kirwan Jr.			
	5,201,900	Apr. 13, 1993	Paul C. Nardella			
	5,207,691	May. 4, 1993	Paul C. Nardella			
	5,230,623	Jul. 27, 1993	Guthrie et al.			
	5,233,515	Aug. 3, 1993	Eric R. Cosman			
	5,267,994	Dec. 7, 1993	Gentelia et al.			
	5,267,997	Dec. 7, 1993	Farin			
	5,281,213	Jan. 25, 1994	Milder et al.			
	5,300,068	Apr. 5, 1994	George C. Rosar et al.			
	5,300,070	Apr. 5, 1994	Gentelia			
	5,318,563	Jun. 7, 1994	Jerry L. Malis et al.			
	5,323,778	Jun. 28, 1994	Kandarpa et al.			
	5,324,283	Jun. 28, 1994	Helmut Hecke			
	5,330,518	Jul. 19, 1994	Neilson et al.			
	5,334,193	Aug. 2, 1994	Nardella			
	5,341,807	Aug. 30, 1994	Paul C. Nardella			
	5,342,356	Aug. 30, 1994	Alan G. Ellman			
	5,342,357	Aug. 30, 1994	Nardella			
	5,342,409	Aug. 30, 1994	Keith R. Mullett			
	5,348,554	Sep. 20, 1994	Imran et al.			
	5,370,645	Dec. 6, 1994	Michael S. Klicek et al.			
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	5,370,672	Dec. 6, 1994	Kim R. Fowler et al.			
	5,370,675	Dec. 6, 1994	Edwards et al.			
	5,372,596	Dec. 13, 1994	Michael S. Klicek et al.			
	5,383,874	Jan. 24, 1995	Jackson			
	5,383,876	Jan. 24, 1995	Nardella			
	5,383,917	Jan. 24, 1995	Desai et al.			
	5,385,148	Jan. 31, 1995	Lesh et al.			
	5,396,062	Mar. 7, 1995	David K. Eisentraut et al.			
	5,400,267	Mar. 21, 1995	Dennis J. Denen et al.			
	5,403,311	Apr. 4, 1995	Abele et al.			
	5,403,312	Apr. 4, 1995	David C. Yates et al.			
	5,409,000	Apr. 25, 1995	Imran			
	5,409,006	Apr. 25, 1995	Buchholtz et al.			
	5,409,485	Apr. 25, 1995	Suda			
	5,413,573	May. 9, 1995	John Koivukangas			
	5,417,719	May. 23, 1995	Vincent W. Hull et al.			
	5,422,567	Jun. 6, 1995	Derek Matsunaga			
	5,423,808	Jun. 13, 1995	Stuart D. Edwards et al.			
	5,423,809	Jun. 13, 1995	Michael S. Klicek			
	5,423,810	Jun. 13, 1995	Nigel M. Goble et al.			
	5,430,434	Jul. 4, 1995	Gabor Lederer et al.			
	5,432,459	Jul. 11, 1995	Thompson			
	5,433,739	Jul. 18, 1995	Menno E. Sluijter et al.			
	5,434,398	Jul. 18, 1995	Samuel Goldberg			
	5,436,566	Jul. 25, 1995	Thompson			
	5,438,302	Aug. 1, 1995	Colin C. O. Goble			
	5,443,463	Aug. 22, 1995	Roger A. Stern et al.			
	5,445,635	Aug. 29, 1995	Denen			
	5,451,224	Sept. 19, 1995	Nigel M. Goble et al.			
	5,458,597	Oct. 17, 1995	Edwards et al.			
Examiner				Date Considered		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.						

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Form PTO-1449			Docket Number (Optional) 2926US(203-3805PCTUS)		Application Number 10/573,210	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)			Applicant Gregg et al.			
			Filing Date March 24, 2006		Group Art Number	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	5,462,521	Oct. 31, 1995	Brucker et al.			
	5,472,441	Dec. 5, 1995	Edwards et al.			
	5,472,443	Dec. 5, 1995	Jack C. Cordis et al.			
	5,478,303	Dec. 26, 1995	D. Folry-Nolan et al.			
	5,480,399	Jan. 2, 1996	Kevin A. Hebborn			
	5,483,952	Jan. 16, 1996	Ernie Aranyi			
	5,490,850	Feb. 13, 1996	Ellman et al.			
	5,496,312	Mar. 5, 1996	Michael S. Klicek			
	5,496,313	Mar. 5, 1996	John S. Gentelia et al.			
	5,500,012	Mar. 19, 1996	Brucker et al.			
	5,500,616	Mar. 19, 1996	Sam S. Ochi			
	5,514,129	May. 7, 1996	Gregory C. Smith			
	5,520,684	May 28, 1996	Imran			
	5,531,774	Jul. 2, 1996	J. H. Schulman et al.			
	5,534,018	Jul. 9, 1996	J. D. Wahlstrand et al.			
	5,536,267	Jul. 16, 1996	Edwards et al.			
	5,540,681	Jul. 30, 1996	Bruno Strul et al.			
	5,540,683	Jul. 30, 1996	Ichikawa			
	5,540,684	Jul. 30, 1996	William L. Hassler, Jr.			
	5,540,724	Jul. 30, 1996	Timothy J. Cox			
	5,556,396	Sept. 17, 1996	Donald Cohen et al.			
	5,558,671	Sept. 24, 1996	David C. Yates			
	5,569,242	Oct. 29, 1996	Ronald G. Lax et al.			
	5,571,147	Nov. 5, 1996	Menno E. Sluiter et al.			
	5,573,533	Nov. 12, 1996	Strul			
	5,588,432	Dec. 31, 1996	Crowley			
	5,594,636	Jan. 14, 1997	Colin D. Schauder			
	5,596,466	Jan. 21, 1997	Sam. S. Ochi			
	5,599,344	Feb. 4, 1997	William G. Paterson			
	5,599,345	Feb. 4, 1997	Edwards et al.			
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		Filing Date March 24, 2006		Group Art Number	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner	Document				Filing Date
	5,605,150	Feb. 25, 1997	S. W. Radons et al.		
	5,613,966	Mar. 25, 1997	Joshua Makower et al.		
	5,613,996	Mar. 25, 1997	Richard D. Lindsay		
	5,625,370	Apr. 29, 1997	Leok J. D'Hont		
	5,626,575	May 6, 1997	James C. Crenner		
	5,628,745	May. 13, 1997	Robin B. Bek		
	5,643,330	Jul. 1, 1997	Jan Holsheimer et al.		
	5,647,869	7/15/1997	Goble et al.		
	5,647,871	Jul. 15, 1997	Levine et al.		
	5,651,780	Jul. 29, 1997	Jerome Jackson et al.		
	5,658,322	Aug. 19, 1997	Janet E. Fleming		
	5,660,567	Aug. 26, 1997	Steve L. Nierlich et al.		
	5,688,267	Nov. 18, 1997	Panescu et al.		
	5,690,692	Nov. 25, 1997	Janet E. Fleming		
	5,693,042	Dec. 2, 1997	A. A. Bioarski et al.		
	5,695,494	Dec. 9, 1997	Daniel J. Becker		
	5,696,351	Dec. 9, 1997	Benn et al.		
	5,702,386	Dec. 31, 1997	Roger A. Stern et al.		
	5,702,429	Dec. 30, 1997	Garry William King		
	5,707,369	Jan. 13, 1998	Vaitekunas et al.		
	5,713,896	Feb. 3, 1998	Paul C. Nardella		
	5,720,744	Feb. 24, 1988	J. L. Eggleston et al.		
	5,722,975	Mar. 3, 1998	Stuart D. Edwards et al.		
	5,733,281	Mar. 31, 1998	Paul C. Nardella		
	5,749,869	May. 12, 1998	Heinz Lindenmeier et al.		
	5,749,871	May. 12, 1998	Larry L. Hood et al.		
	5,755,715	May. 26, 1998	Stern		
	5,766,165	Jun. 16, 1998	John S. Gentelia et al.		
	5,769,847	Jun. 23, 1998	Panescu		
	5,772,659	Jun. 30, 1998	Daniel J. Becker et al.		
	5,792,138	Aug. 11, 1998	John I. Shipp		
	5,797,802	Aug. 25, 1998	Nowak		
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Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	5,797,902	Aug. 25, 1998	Samuel G. Netherly			
	5,814,092	Sept. 29, 1998	Gary William King			
	5,817,093	Oct. 6, 1998	Williamson, IV et al.			
	5,820,568	Oct. 13, 1998	N. P. Willis			
	5,827,271	Oct. 27, 1998	Steven P. Bussey et al.			
	5,830,212	Nov. 3, 1998	Cartmell			
	5,836,943	Nov. 17, 1998	Scott A. Miller, III			
	5,836,990	Nov. 17, 1998	Li			
	5,846,236	Dec. 8, 1998	Heinz Lindenmeier et al.			
	5,868,737	Feb. 9, 1999	Taylor et al.			
	5,868,739	Feb. 9, 1999	Heinz Lindenmeier et al.			
	5,868,740	Feb. 9, 1999	LeVeen et al.			
	5,871,481	Feb. 16, 1999	D. P. Kannenberg et al.			
	5,897,552	Apr. 27, 1999	Stuart D. Edwards et al.			
	5,908,444	Jun. 1, 1999	Larry Azure			
	5,913,882	Jun. 22, 1999	Gary William King			
	5,921,982	Jul. 13, 1999	Lesh et al.			
	5,925,070	Jul. 20, 1999	Gary W. King et al.			
	5,931,836	Aug. 3, 1999	Shinji Hatta et al.			
	5,938,690	Aug. 17, 1999	Jay Law et al.			
	5,948,007	Sept. 7, 1999	W. Starkenbaum et al.			
	5,951,545	Sept. 14, 1999	Schilling			
	5,951,546	Sept. 14, 1999	Torben Lorentzen			
	5,954,686	Sep. 21, 1999	Garito et al.			
	5,954,717	Sept. 21, 1999	Robert S. Behl et al.			
	5,961,344	Oct. 5, 1999	Rosales et al.			
	5,971,980	Oct. 26, 1999	Marshall L. Sherman			
	5,976,128	Nov. 2, 1999	Bertram Schilling et al.			
	5,983,141	Nov. 9, 1999	Menno E. Sluijter et al.			
	6,010,499	Jan. 4, 2000	Garry V. Cobb			
	6,014,581	Jan. 11, 2000	Whayne et al.			
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	6,033,399	Mar. 7, 2000	David Lee Gines			
	6,044,283	Mar. 28, 2000	Michael E. Fein et al.			
	6,053,910	Apr. 25, 2000	Richard P. Fleenor			
	6,053,912	Apr. 25, 2000	Panescu et al.			
	6,056,745	May 2, 2000	Panescu et al.			
	6,056,746	May 2, 2000	Goble et al.			
	6,063,075	May. 16, 2000	Mihori			
	6,063,078	May. 16, 2000	Wittkamp			
	6,068,627	May. 30, 2000	J. H. Orszulak et al.			
	6,074,386	Jun. 13, 2000	Neil Mark Goble et al.			
	6,080,149	Jun. 27, 2000	Huang et al.			
	6,093,186	Jul. 25, 2000	Colin C.O. Goble			
	6,113,591	Sept. 5, 2000	James G. Whayne et al.			
	6,113,596	Sept. 5, 2000	Hooven			
	6,123,702	Sept. 26, 2000	Swanson et al.			
	6,132,429	Oct. 17, 2000	James A. Baker			
	6,142,992	Nov. 7, 2000	Cheng et al.			
	6,162,217	Dec. 19, 2000	Kannenbergh et al.			
	6,203,541	Mar. 20, 2001	David Keppel			
	6,210,403	Apr. 3, 2001	Michael S. Klicek			
	6,228,080	May. 8, 2001	David Lee Gines			
	6,228,081	May. 8, 2001	Goble			
	6,231,569	May. 15, 2001	Bek			
	6,235,020	May. 22, 2001	Cheng et al.			
	6,238,387	May. 29, 2001	Scott A. Miller, III			
	6,238,388	May. 29, 2001	Ellman			
	6,241,725	Jun. 5, 2001	Cosman			
	6,245,065	Jun. 12, 2001	Panescu			
	6,246,912	Jun. 12, 2001	Menno E. Sluijter et al.			
	6,251,106	Jun. 26, 2001	Daniel J. Becker et al.			
	6,258,085	Jul. 10, 2001	Jeffery L. Eggleston			
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	6,261,285	Jul. 17, 2001	Novak			
	6,261,286	Jul. 17, 2001	Goble et al.			
	6,273,886	Aug. 14, 2001	Edwards			
	6,275,786	Aug. 14, 2001	Daners			
	6,293,941	Sep. 25, 2001	Strul			
	6,293,942	Sep. 25, 2001	Goble et al.			
	6,306,131	Oct. 23, 2001	Hareyama et al.			
	6,306,134	Oct. 23, 2001	Goble et al.			
	6,309,386	Oct. 30, 2001	Bek			
	6,337,998	Jan. 8, 2002	Behl et al.			
	6,338,657	Jan. 15, 2002	Harper et al.			
	6,358,245	Mar. 19, 2002	Edwards			
	6,364,877	Apr. 2, 2002	Goble et al.			
	6,383,183	May 7, 2002	Sekino et al.			
	6,398,779	Jun. 4, 2002	Steven P. Buysse et al.			
	6,398,781	Jun. 4, 2002	Goble et al.			
	6,402,741	Jun. 11, 2002	David Keppel et al.			
	6,402,743	Jun. 11, 2002	J. H. Orszulak et al.			
	6,416,509	Jul. 9, 2002	Goble et al.			
	6,436,096	Aug. 20, 2002	N. Hareyama			
	6,451,015	Sep. 17, 2002	Rittman, III et al.			
	6,458,121	Oct. 1, 2002	Rosenstock			
	6,464,689	Oct. 15, 2002	Qin			
	6,464,696	Oct. 15, 2002	Oyama			
	6,506,189	Jan. 14, 2003	Rittman, III et al.			
	6,508,815	Jan. 21, 2003	Strul			
	6,511,476	Jan. 28, 2003	N. Hareyama			
	6,547,786	Apr. 15, 2003	Goble			
	6,558,376	May 6, 2003	Bishop			
	6,562,037	May 13, 2003	Paton			
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	6,565,559	May. 20, 2003	Jeffery L. Eggleston			
	6,573,248	Jun. 3, 2003	Ramasamy et al.			
	6,575,969	Jun. 10, 2003	Rittman, III et al.			
	6,582,427	Jun. 24, 2003	Goble et al.			
	6,620,157	Sep. 16, 2003	Dabney et al.			
	6,623,423	Sep. 23, 2003	Sakurai			
	6,635,057	Oct. 21, 2003	Harano			
	6,648,883	Nov. 18, 2003	Francischelli			
	6,652,514	Nov. 25, 2003	Ellman			
	6,663,623	Dec. 16, 2003	Oyama et al.			
	6,663,624	Dec. 16, 2003	Edwards			
	6,666,860	Dec. 23, 2003	Takahashi			
	6,679,875	Jan. 20, 2004	Honda			
	6,682,527	Jan. 27, 2004	Strul			
	6,685,700	Feb. 3, 2004	Behl			
	6,685,701	Feb. 3, 2004	Orszulak et al.			
	6,692,489	Feb. 17, 2004	Heim			
	6,712,813	Mar. 30, 2004	Ellman			
	6,730,080	May 4, 2004	Harano			
	6,733,495	May 11, 2004	Bek			
	6,733,498	May 11, 2004	Paton			
	6,740,079	May 25, 2004	Eggers			
	6,740,085	May 25, 2004	Hareyama			
	6,783,523	Aug. 31, 2004	Qin			
	6,790,206	Sep. 14, 2004	Panescu			
	6,796,981	Sep. 28, 2004	Wham			
	6,824,539	Nov. 30, 2004	Novak			
	6,830,569	Dec. 14, 2004	Thompson			
	6,843,789	Jan. 18, 2005	Goble			
	6,849,073	Feb. 1, 2005	Hoey			
	6,855,141	Feb. 15, 2005	Lovewell			
	6,855,142	Feb. 15, 2005	Harano			
	6,860,881	Mar. 1, 2005	Sturm			
	6,864,686	Mar. 8, 2005	Novak			
	6,875,210	Apr. 5, 2005	Refior			
	6,893,435	May 17, 2005	Roane			
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Examiner Initial	Publication Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	2001/0014804 A1	Aug. 16, 2001	Goble et al.			
	2001/0031962 A1	Oct. 18, 2001	Jeffery L. Eggleston			
	2002/0035363 A1	Mar. 21, 2002	Edwards et al.			
	2002/0035364 A1	Mar. 21, 2002	Schoenman et al.			
	2002/0068932 A1	Jun. 6, 2002	Edwards			
	2002/0193787 A1	Dec. 19, 2002	Qin			
	2003/0004510 A1	Jan. 2, 2003	Wham et al.			
	2003/0078572 A1	Apr. 24, 2003	Pearson et al.			
	2003/0139741 A1	Jul. 24, 2003	Goble et al.			
	2003/0153908 A1	Aug. 14, 2003	Goble			
	2003/0163123 A1	Aug. 28, 2003	Goble			
	2003/0163124 A1	Aug. 28, 2003	Goble			
	2003/0171745 A1	Sep. 11, 2003	Francischelli			
	2003/0199863 A1	Oct. 23, 2003	Swanson			
	2003/0060818 A1	Mar. 27, 2003	Kannenberg			
	2004/0002745 A1	Jan. 1, 2004	Flemming			
	2004/0015163 A1	Jan. 22, 2004	Buysse et al.			
	2004/0019347 A1	Jan. 29, 2004	Sakurai			
	2004/0024395 A1	Feb. 5, 2004	Ellman			
	2004/0030328 A1	Feb. 12, 2004	Eggers			
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	2004/0049179 A1	Mar. 11, 2004	Francischelli			
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	2004/0059323 A1	Mar. 25, 2004	Sturm et al.			
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	2004/0097912 A1	May 20, 2004	Gonnering			
	2004/0097914 A1	May 20, 2004	Pantera			
	2004/0097915 A1	May 20, 2004	Refior			
	2004/0116919 A1	Jun. 17, 2004	Heim			
	2004/0243120 A1	Dec. 2, 2004	Orszulak et al.			
	2004/0133189 A1	Jul. 8, 2004	Sakurai			
	2004/0138653 A1	Jul. 15, 2004	Dabney et al.			
	2004/0138654 A1	Jul. 15, 2004	Goble			
	2004/0147918 A1	Jul. 29, 2004	Keppel			
	2004/0167508 A1	Aug. 26, 2004	Wham et al.			
	2004/0172016 A1	Sep. 2, 2004	Bek			
	2004/0193148 A1	Sep. 30, 2004	Wham et al.			
	2004/0230189 A1	Nov. 18, 2004	Keppel			
	2004/0260279 A1	Dec. 23, 2004	Goble			
	2005/0004564 A1	Jan. 6, 2005	Wham			
	2005/0021020 A1	Jan. 27, 2005	Blaha et al.			
	2005/0101951 A1	May 12, 2005	Wham			
	2005/0113818 A1	May 26, 2005	Sartor			
	2005/0113819 A1	May 26, 2005	Wham			
	2005/0149151 A1	Jul. 7, 2005	Orszulak			
	2005/0182398 A1	Aug. 18, 2005	Paterson			
	2005/0197659 A1	Sep. 8, 2005	Bahney			
	2005/0021022 A1	Jan. 27, 2005	Sturm et al.			
	2005/0203504 A1	Sep. 15, 2005	Wham et al.			
	2006/0025760 A1	Feb. 2, 2006	Podhajsky			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	179,607	Mar. 1905	DE				
	390,937	Apr., 1989	DE				
	1,099,658	Feb., 1961	DE				
	1,139,927	Nov., 1962	DE				
	1,149,832	Jun., 1963	DE				
	1,439,302	Jan. 1969	DE				
	2,407,559	Aug., 1975	DE				
	2,439,587	Feb., 1975	DE				
	2,455,174	May., 1975	DE				
	2,504,280	Aug., 1976	DE				
	2,540,968	Mar., 1977	DE				
	2,602,517	Jul., 1976	DE				
	2,803,275	Aug., 1979	DE				
	2,820,908	Nov., 1978	DE				
	2,823,291	Nov., 1979	DE				
	2,946,728	May., 1981	DE				
	3,045,996	Jul., 1982	DE				
	3,120,102	Dec., 1982	DE				
	3,143,421	May., 1982	DE				
	3,510,586	Oct., 1986	DE				
	3,604,823	Aug., 1987	DE				
	3,904,558	Aug., 1990	DE				
	3,942,998	Jul., 1991	DE				
	19,717,411	Nov., 1998	DE				

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	246,350	Nov., 1987	EP				
	310,431	Apr., 1989	EP				
	325,456	Jul., 1989	EP				
	336,742	Oct., 1989	EP				
	390,937	Oct., 1990	EP				
	556,705	Aug., 1993	EP				
	608,609	Aug., 1994	EP				
	836,868	April, 1998	EP				
	878,169	Nov., 1998	EP				
	1,293,171	Mar. 19, 2003	EP				
	1,275,415	Oct., 1961	FR				
	1,347,865	Nov., 1963	FR				
	2,313,708	Dec., 1976	FR				
	2,502,935	Oct., 1982	FR				
	2,517,953	Jun., 1983	FR				
	2,573,301	May, 1986	FR				
	855,459	Nov., 1960	GB				
	2,164,473	Mar., 1986	GB				
	2,214,430	Sep. 6, 1989	GB				
	902,775	Aug., 1962	GB				
	607,850	Sep. 1948	GB				
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	WO92/06642	Apr., 1992	PCT				
	WO93/24066	Dec., 1993	PCT				
	WO94/24949	Nov., 1994	PCT				
	WO94/28809	Dec., 1994	PCT				
	WO95/09577	Apr., 1995	PCT				
	WO95/19148	Jul., 1995	PCT				
	WO96/02180	Feb., 1996	PCT				
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